

TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
My LORDS, of His
Majesty's Commission
ECCLESIASTICAL.

I Most humbly Intreat your Lordships Favourable Interpretation, of what I now Write, That since your Lordships, are resolved to Proceed against those, who have not complied with the Kings Command, in Reading His *Declaration*. It is absolutely impossible, for me to Serve His Majesty any longer, in this Commission: I beg leave to tell your Lordships, that tho I my Self, did submit in that particular, yet I will never be any way *Instrumental*, in *Punishing* those, my *Brethren*, that did not. For, as I call *God to Witness*, that what I did, was meerly in a *Principal of Conscience*: So I am fully satisfied, that their forbearance, was upon the same *Principle*. I have no Reason to think otherwise, of the whole Body of our Clergy, who upon all Occasions, have signaliz'd their *Loyalty to the Crown*; and their *Zealous Affections to His Present Majesty's Person*, in the worst of Times. Now my Lords, the safety of the whole Church of *England*, seeming to be exceedingly concerned in this Prosecution: I must declare, I cannot with a safe *Conscience*, Sit or Judge in this Cause, upon so many *Pious and Excellent Men*, with whom (if it be *God's Will*) it rather becomes me to *Suffer*, then to be in the least, Occasion to their *Sufferings*. I therefore, earnestly request your Lordships, Interceed with His Majesty, that I may be Graciously dismissed, from any further Attendance at your Board: And to assure him, that I am still ready to Sacrifice, what ever I have to His Service, but my *Conscience and Religion*.

My Lords,

I am Your Lordships,

Most Faithful, and

Obedient Servant,

Rochester.